

Message Text

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10
ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 INR-07

LAB-04 NSAE-00 SIL-01 DODE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01

SP-02 AID-05 L-02 OMB-01 /058 W
----- 105892

R 300843Z APR 75
FM AMEMBASSY MANILA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2825
INFO AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
AMEMBASSY SEOUL
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMCONGEN MELBOURNE
USMISSION GENEVA

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E.O. 11652: NA
TAGSC ELAB, RP
SUBJECT: LABOR UNIFICATION: DOUBLE-TALK OR REALITY?

REF: MANILA 5292

1. AS REPORTED REFTTEL, UNIFICATION TALKS HIT SNAG WHEN
LABOR MAVERICK JOHNNIE TAN QUESTIONED "UNDEMOCRATIC
PROCEDURES" WITH RESPECT FROMATION PROPOSED NATIONAL TRADE
UNION CENTER (NTUC) UNIFIED UMBRELLA ORGANIZATION. NOW,
ON EVE MAY 1 LABOR DAY, PRESS CARRIES ACCOUNT OF SETTING
UP OF NATIONAL LABOR COORDINATING CENTER (NLCC) AS PRE-
CURSOR TO "EVENTUAL" FORMATION UNIFIED NTUC. THIS COM-
PROMISE
AGREEMENT APPARENTLY REACHED DURING APRIL 25
MEETING BETWEEN LABOR WORKING GROUP AND LABOR SECRETARY
OPLE.

2. NLCC, UNDER CHAIRMANSHIP OF ROBERTO OCA, CHARGED
WITH THREE PRINCIPAL FUNCTIONS: 1) TO ADMINISTER, IN
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COORDINATION WITH DOL, RESTRUCTURING AND UNIFICATION

PROVISIONS OF LABOR CODE, 2) TO SERVE AS SPOKESMAN FOR ORGANIZED LABOR ON BOTH DOMESTIC AND INTERNATIONAL FRONTS, AND 3) TO COORDINATE ALL LABOR WELFARE AND EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS. KEY FEATURE OF AGREEMENT CALLS FOR HOLDING FOUNDING CONVENTION WITHIN 6 TO 12 MONTHS, WHILE PROCEEDING WITH ONE UNION/ONE INDUSTRY RESTRUCTURING EFFORTS IN INTERIM PERIOD.

3. COMMENT: ABOVE AGREEMENT REPRESENTS PARTIAL ACCOMMODATION WITH TAN AND HIS MINORITY WING TRADE UNION SUPPORTERS. REMAINS TO BE SEEN HOW MUCH IF ANY THING PRESIDENT MARCOS CAN MAKE OF THIS LATEST LABOR UNIFICATION DOUBLE-TALK DURING HIS LABOR DAY ADDRESS. IN EMBASSY'S VIEW, OPLE WAS CERTAINLY STRETCHING IT WHEN ACCORDING TO PRESS HE HAILED NLCC ACCORD AS A "POSITIVE AND VIGOROUS STEP" TOWARD A STRONG AND UNIFIED FILIPINO LABOR MOVEMENT.
SULLIVAN

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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05 JUL 2006

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